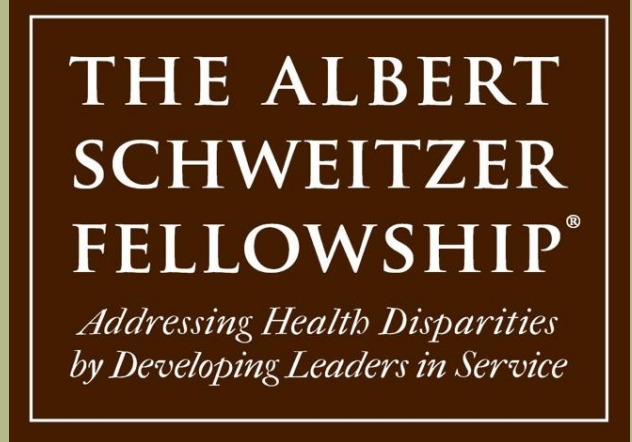


# THE COLUMBUS-ATHENS SCHWEITZER FELLOWS PROGRAM

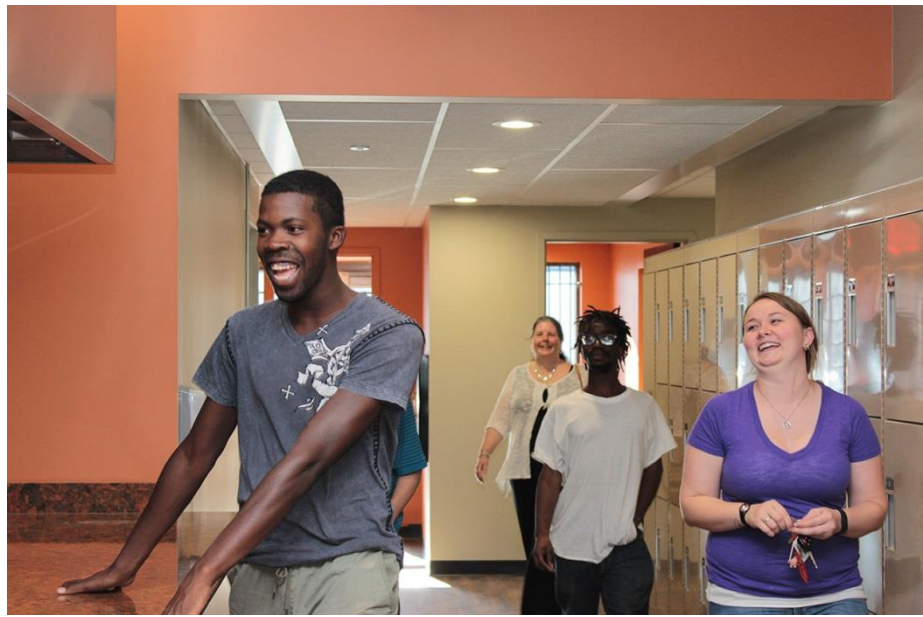
Purpose: To facilitate service projects to benefit the Columbus and Athens communities, and simultaneously develop emerging professionals who have the skills to address unmet health-related needs throughout their careers.



## R.A.M.P. Up to a Fresh Start! Real Application Mentorship Program

“Start early to instill in your students awareness that they are on this earth to help and serve others; that is as important to pass on to them as knowledge.”

—Albert Schweitzer, PhD, MD



### Youth Homelessness

- 500,000 – 2.3 million homeless youth in the US
- Only 0.7% of outreach programs exist to meet the distinctive needs of this age demographic
- Unique challenges include: substance abuse, malnutrition, exploitation, teen parenthood, STI’s and sexual trafficking

### Goals

- Empower youth to explore and pursue healthy nutritional options
- Collaborate with youth to develop independent living skills
- Develop positive mentorship relationships with youth

### Methods

- Engaged youth in sharing personal knowledge, experience and culture through weekly meal preparation
- Collaborated with youth to develop kitchen skills
- Provided consistent and reliable availability
- Facilitated weekly discussions addressing life skills, health literacy and job acquisition to assist with successful transition to independent living

### Partnership

#### The OSU Star House

- A drop-in center for transitional youth ages 14-24 experiencing homelessness
- Provides a non-judgmental atmosphere where youth can rest, eat, bathe, socialize, wash laundry, and receive clothing & resources
- Connects youth to counseling, healthcare, employment, transportation , education, housing and financial assistance

### Impact

“I can’t believe I made this! It tastes great.”

“What are we making together today?”

“Can you bring more avocados next week?”

“My goal is to go back to school for social work so that I can show kids like me that they can be a ‘foster kid’ and still be successful.”



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